

the School Site Council, Whittier Academy of Math and Science, Eisenhower Teams, Mexican-American Cultural Institute, National Education Association, California Teachers Association, Whittier Secondary Education Association, and the California Association for the Gifted. Also, he is the coordinator of the SAT Preparation Program and supervisor of the California Academic Partnership Program.

He was named 1996 California Teacher of the Year, in recognition of his leadership in the field of education and his unwavering dedication to our young people. He credits as his greatest contribution in education the creation of the Pioneer Math Academy. Established in 1991, each summer the Pioneer Math Academy serves over 500 students from grades 4 through 12. This program unites in a cooperative joint effort school board members, superintendents, administrators, teachers, parents, students, and college students, who serve as tutors, of three school districts, and provides service to over 40 schools. Everyone who participates in this truly worthwhile program comes away with a valuable and enriching experience.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I rise to recognize California's esteemed 1996 Teacher of the Year, Javier Gonzalez, and ask my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his outstanding commitment to the education of our youth and to America's future.

TRIBUTE TO BILL GATES

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention Bill Gates who was honored at the Allied Health Industry dinner.

Bill is the president of the Gates Co., in Clifton, NJ. The company is a manufacturer and distributor of United States and foreign flags as well as custom banners. They also sell and install flag poles. The Gates Co. is now 127 years old, having been established by Bill's grandfather in 1870 in New York and moving to New Jersey in 1904.

Bill served with the U.S. Navy in World War II in the South Pacific and is a member of the U.S. Navy League. After completing his service requirements and attending William Paterson College, he joined the family business and now carries forth a proud tradition and a sense of legacy.

Currently Bill is deeply involved with Wayne General Hospital, serving on the board of trustees for both the hospital and the foundation. Wayne General Hospital is the sponsor of an exploring program where over 30 young people get a first hand look at various medical careers.

Bill is a member of the Greater Paterson Chamber of Commerce and the Northern Regional Chamber of Commerce where he serves on the board of directors. He was an area code coordinator for the PolioPlus Campaign, and has been tremendously involved in the Paterson Rotary Club. He served as past president of the Rotary Club, governor's representative, St. governor's representative, chief governor's representative for three terms, and past district governor of District 7490 of the Rotary International. Additionally he is on

the board of the Action Theater Conservatory, a member of the Hawthorne Elks, the Genesis Masonic Lodge, a member of the Upper Montclair Country Club, and a former member of the Boy Scout Troop 20 in Paterson.

Bill and his wife, Joyce, reside in Wayne and are blessed with two daughters and three granddaughters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Bill's family and friends, and the people of northern Jersey in recognizing Bill Gates' many outstanding and invaluable contributions made to the community.

REFORM THE IRS

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 1, 1997

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of congressional efforts to reign in and reform the Internal Revenue Service [IRS]. Many Americans believe that the IRS is an agency that is out of control. Far too often we hear reports that this agency terrorizes and threatens taxpayers. While many of the IRS's problems are admittedly linked to our far-too-complicated Tax Code, the agency's shameful mistreatment of taxpayers has other roots, as well. Instead of working on their behalf, the IRS treats too many taxpayers as criminals who are presumed guilty unless they can prove their own innocence. Unfortunately, because most Americans lack sufficient resources to fight the IRS in court, the agency's actions are often financially devastating to families and businesses.

That is why I have cosponsored the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1997, introduced by Congressman ROB PORTMAN, Republican, of Ohio. Our bill would implement the recommendations of the year-long National Commission on Restructuring the IRS, in order to provide taxpayers new protections and rights to assist in dealing with this overzealous agency. By improving customer service, expanding taxpayer rights, and overhauling the IRS's management structure, this legislation would provide badly needed long-term solutions to the problems that too many Americans experience with the IRS.

Most importantly, the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1997 would completely overhaul the Tax Code. Since the last major simplification of the Tax Code was passed in 1986, 4,000 amendments have been added to the Tax Code. A fairer, simpler, single-rate Tax Code offers the best hope for ending the IRS as we know it. But until tax simplification is in place, we need to take steps to correct these very real abuses and protect our constituents and taxpayers. That is why I strongly urge this Congress to take swift action to enact the IRS Restructuring and Reform Act of 1997.

STATEMENT ON THE UNQUESTIONED INTEGRITY OF UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE STUART EIZENSTAT

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, in my decades of watching and working on Capitol Hill, I have never met a public servant of greater integrity and dedication than the Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs, Stuart Eizenstat. Recent criticism involving him has prompted me to undertake an in depth review and analysis of his earlier private-sector work in the airline industry. My inquiry has only confirmed my unequivocal and carefully considered view of Mr. Eizenstat as a public servant of the highest integrity and impeccable action.

I profoundly deplore the absolutely unfounded accusations that have been made against him by special interests, who have a vested interest in an outcome contrary to the carefully considered and appropriate policy being pursued by the United States Government. It would appear that these interests are cynically using this totally unjustified and false criticism of this outstanding public servant in an effort to achieve their objectives through sleaze, innuendo, and falsehood.

I specifically wish to place in the public record the following information about Under Secretary Eizenstat in order to clarify this situation.

First, prior to his confirmation as U.S. Ambassador to the European Union, Ambassador Eizenstat listed over 30 clients with whom he would have no contact for a 1-year period. Ethics regulations require that an official recuse himself for 1 year from matters in which a former client is a party if the official believes that an appearance of a conflict would otherwise result. At the request of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Ambassador Eizenstat went even further. Because he had represented British Airways with respect to the USAir merger, he agreed not to participate in official matters involving this merger for the duration of his appointment as Ambassador and to consider carefully whether to participate in other issues involving British Airways, if any should arise. He fully honored this extensive commitment.

Second, after serving for over 2½ years as Ambassador to the European Union, he has twice been confirmed by the U.S. Senate, once in early 1996 as Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade and again in the spring of this year as Under Secretary of State for Economic, Business, and Agricultural Affairs. In neither instance was he asked to limit further contact with British Airways or with any of his former clients. Indeed, he could not do his job in either position if he were required to recuse himself indefinitely from all matters involving his former clients.

Third, in his meeting with EU Commissioner Van Miert, he did not seek approval of the American Airlines-British Airways alliance. Rather, he presented a position of the State Department he himself had not participated in even developing. Instead he merely expressed concern that the European Union, in its consideration of the proposed alliance, not impose